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The wholesale desertions of Mr. Bryan, by politicians who were shouting his praises and prostrating themselves before the "peerless leader" four years ago prove the fickleness of fame if it does not lead to success. Mr. Bryan has not changed.

There may be those who imagine that Admiral Dewey's declaration that he did not promise Aguinaldo independence will silence the anti-imperialists, but if there are such hopeful persons they do not understand the Aguinaldoites in the East.

The most important acts of the present Ohio Legislature have been set aside by the Supreme Court as unconstitutional. As most legislative acts are drawn by lawyers, the wonder is that such glaring violations of the Constitution were enacted as laws.

Indianapolis wishes that more favorable weather had prevailed while the Christian Endeavor people were with us, but it is a consolation to feel that nothing in the way of weather can dampen their enthusiasm in the work which has brought them together.

The director of the census is now engaged in distributing the four principal reports of the last census, those on population, manufactures, agriculture and vital statistics. The compilation, tabulating and printing of these reports in less than two years after the taking of the census is the quickest work ever done in that line.

On Tuesday, July 1, the so-called war revenue taxes will cease. This will include stamp taxes of all kinds, a reduction of the tax on beer to the old rate of $1 per barrel and a reduction to the old rate on all kinds of manufactured tobacco. It will probably be a long time before these special taxes will be imposed again.

The New York Times warmly applauds the President's praise of Secretary Root, General Wood and Judge Taft in his Harvard address, not because these men, who have so efficiently served the country, need defense, but because "it was an incentive to the performance of a public duty which was especially in place at an academic festival."

W. Pett Ridge, the English novelist, suggests as a remedy for "hooliganism" the organization of the gangs of young rowdies into military companies, with all the accompaniments of music, uniforms, parades, etc., that give glamour to the soldier's calling. Mr. Ridge may feel that he is advancing an original idea, but before he engages in this work of reform it will be well for him to come to this country and visit some of the "boys' clubs" to see how well the plan works.

The announcement that the United States Steel Corporation has, of its own motion, decided to advance the wages of all its employes, about 100,000 in number, 10 per cent. will probably be as great a surprise to the rampant opponents of all trusts and corporations as it will be to the men themselves. It is said the advance will add about $4,000,000 a year to the company's pay roll. In this case, at least, it cannot be claimed that the formation of a trust has resulted detrimentally to the men.

Considering the long debate over Philippine affairs in Congress, which has been liable to misinterpretation by the Filipinos, it is most encouraging to learn from the most authentic sources that the general conditions in the islands are decidedly more favorable than they have been at any previous date. When Congress shall have adjourned and the Fourth of July amnesty restores freedom to most the political offenders in the Philippines, and civil government supersedes military, rapid improvement may be looked for.

A recent dispatch in the Journal stated that the omnibus public building bill passed by Congress provides for the erection of 118 new public buildings at an expense approximately of $19,500,000. This is a great task and involves great responsibility, but those who know Supervising Architect Taylor best say he is equal to it. He was appointed to his present position after a competitive examination in which sixty architects from all parts of the country competed, and of thirty-six who passed the examination Mr. Taylor was counted the fittest. No other architect living has had as large and varied experience in the profession as he, or controls as large a working force. He has under his direction one hundred technical men, including draughtsmen and computers, eighty clerks and forty superintendents of construction and traveling inspectors, and his executive ability is equal to the task of supervising all their work to a common end. It is fortunate for the country that the present supervising architect has high ideals and that he is an adherent of the classical school in architecture, thus insuring, at least during his regime, a style of public buildings that will stand the test of criticism and grow more impressive with time.

INDIANA FINANCING IN THE CIVIL WAR.

A recent act of Congress providing for refunding to the State $635,000 for money expended in raising and equipping soldiers in the war for the Union is a reminder of the gigantic difficulties which beset the State as well as the national government during that period. Among the greatest of these was the financing of the war. Money is often spoken of as "the sinews of war," and the expression is apt, for money is absolutely necessary to every movement of war and is needed in great abundance. No historian can ever fully relate, and probably no person can ever fully realize, the tremendous energy put forth by the national government in financing the war. The States also had to help carry the load, and no State was more willing and zealous in this regard than Indiana, or, at least, than the Governor of the State, for during a portion of the period he not only did not have the support, but had the determined opposition of the Legislature and some of the state officers.

At the commencement of the war the national government, being unable to arm and equip troops as fast as they were raised, Indiana undertook to arm and equip her own troops, trusting to Congress to reimburse the sums thus expended. At that time the State debt amounted to $8,750,000, and the report of the treasurer of state showed that on Feb. 11, 1861, there was only $10,368 in the state treasury. The Governor made every possible effort to secure arms from the War Department, but with little success. May 1, 1861, the Legislature passed "An act to provide for the defense of the State, to procure first-class arms, artillery, cavalry and infantry equipments and munitions of war, making the necessary appropriations therefor and authorizing the Governor to borrow money." This act appropriated $500,000 for the purposes named and authorized the Governor to borrow the money and "pledge the faith of the State for the payment thereof." Under this authorization the Governor appointed the distinguished patriot and statesman, Robert Dale Owen, agent of the State to visit the Eastern States, and, if necessary, Europe, in order to purchase arms. His instructions stated that "the arms purchased in Europe are to be paid for by drafts upon the State of Indiana at the office of Winslow, Lanier & Co., in the city of New York." Mr. Owen hurried to New York, and for a year and eight months he continued to act as the agent of the State in the purchase of arms. He purchased altogether about 40,000 Enfield rifles, a large amount of other arms and equipments, army blankets to the amount of $50,406, overcoats to the amount of $84,829, etc. His total purchases amounted to $891,836, and they were very advantageous for the State in respect of price and quality. Of his outlay for arms, amounting to $752,694, the general government assumed and paid $611,249, and the government authorities admitted that Mr. Owen's purchases had resulted in a saving to it of about $70,000. In his report Mr. Owen stated that the price of the first lot of 20,000 Enfield rifles purchased by him was very considerably lower than the average price paid by the government during the same period, and he added: "The later contracts for 16,000 guns could, some time after they were made, undoubtedly have been sold at an advance of not less than $40,000 to $50,000." Of one lot of 10,000 Enfields he says: "The difference between the price paid by me for these guns, certified to be of the best quality, and that paid by the government for ordinary Enfields at the time of transfer, was $25,388." Mr. Owen's charge for services and expenses during a year and eight months, during which he made these large expenditures, was $3,452. An investigating committee appointed by the Legislature reported that "in their opinion Mr. Owen exhibited much foresight in making the various purchases at the time he did. His duties were discharged with commendable fidelity and energy, and the trust could not have been confided to an abler or more faithful agent." Ultimately the general government paid for all of Mr. Owen's purchases. The amount recently refunded grew out of other transactions, but this one is mentioned to illustrate the energy and success with which difficulties were met and overcome. It is only one of many incidents that demonstrated the resourcefulness of Indiana's "War Governor."

THE SUGAR IN THE BEET.

With all the talk, in Congress and out, on the subject of the sugar beet, it has not been made clear to the common comprehension why that vegetable can be profitably grown in some agricultural regions and not in others. It has been announced, with authority, that the measure of profit lies in the percentage of sugar contained in the crop, and it has been demonstrated by experiment that this percentage varies from 7 per cent. in Arkansas to 20 per cent. in Nevada, with sporadic instances of 22 and 23 per cent. in Michigan. As it has also been proved that it does not pay to erect a factory in any quarter where the crop does not show a sugar content of at least 12 per cent., it is evident that the territory in which it is worth while to raise beets has its decided limitations. But why should the beet be sweeter in one section than another? Why should it have only 7 per cent. of sugar in Arkansas and 20 per cent. in Nevada? Or, coming nearer home, why should certain counties in northern Indiana be able to produce the crop at a profit, while in the central and southern counties it falls below the specific grade? Perhaps, the promoters of the industry have always known, but apparently they have been working in the dark, like the rest, and depending wholly upon tests, conveying the impression that success depended on the existence of certain unnamed elements in the soil. This theory has not been entirely satisfactory to those who have had an interest in the subject, and they have argued, if the crop must get certain ingredients from the earth in which it grows, why not analyze the soil in advance and thus determine whether or not it will pay to plant beets? And what mysterious element is it that the arid soil of Nevada possesses to so much greater degree than Arkansas or the rich agricultural acres of Indiana? And why should northern Indiana, highly fertile, to be sure, have an advantage over central counties, which are also fertile? But now, at last, comes a scientific personage who thows light on the mystery by calmly pointing out, as if everybody had known it all the time, that sugar takes nothing from the soil, but is made from the water vapor and carbon dioxide of the air; also, that a highly important factor in the cultivation of the beet is the temperature. He goes on to say: "A large part of the United States has too high temperature. Where the temperature is high beets grow luxuriantly, but they contain a small percentage of sugar. On the other hand, where frosts come early in the autumn, the beets cannot arrive at maturity. Other things being equal, the farther north the beets can grow to maturity the greater will be the sugar content. The rainfall is a matter of importance. Warm rains in the early part of the season and dry weather during the period of maturing are best." Thus it is seen that richness of soil is a comparatively unimportant consideration; it should be rich enough to make the beets grow, but further than that it cuts but small figure. There must be a temperature that is just high enough and not too high, and rain enough, and not too much, at precisely the right time. As both temperature and rainfall vary greatly from season to season in all parts of the country, it seems clearer than before that the beet crop, even in the most favorable regions, is likely to be an uncertain quantity, and that Mr. Oxnard and his crowd of promoters are "holding up" the country in behalf of an industry that will never attain great importance in the United States.

THE MERIT SYSTEM IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS.

Until within a few years the one idea which ran through the penal code was the punishment of the man condemned for the commission of crime against life, property and the security of society. The reformation or bettering of the condition of the convict, if recognized in the laws, had no place in their execution. The law was to be a terror to evildoers, but, if it did not deter, the convicted were to be punished, and, when punished, be turned loose upon society under conditions which made a second violation of law much easier than the first, since the disgrace of a convict's record caused him to be shunned, thus making the obtaining of employment most difficult, while self-respect was lost with the first conviction. For a class of criminals, those who have deliberately taken human life, the death penalty is the logical sentence, since certainty of the death penalty is a powerful deterrent and because the man who deliberately commits one murder is very liable to commit another if he escapes an extreme penalty for the first.

For the lesser crimes and misdemeanors which fill our state prisons and reformatories, the reforming of the lawbreakers is now the central idea in the penal laws in most States, and particularly in Indiana. It is known as the system of indeterminate sentence. In its practical working it may be defined as the merit system in penal institutions. The dilapidated State Prison at Jeffersonville, as it was six years ago, with its cellhouses poisonous with foul air and lack of drainage, little better than dungeons, has given place to a modern cellhouse, with perfect ventilation and plumbing, modern improvements and an electric light in each cell. Cleanliness is imperative and frequent changes of clothing are provided for all. To this reformatory are sent all prisoners under thirty years of age who are not sentenced for capital offenses. The central idea of the policy of the institution is the reforming of the man and his instruction so that he can go out into the world and become a law-abiding citizen. A large part of the young men are physically defective as well as morally weak. For those the "setting up" exercise is provided the same as in schools which give attention to physical development.

The merit system puts the convicts, or inmates, as they are called in reformatories, into three grades, marked by the clothing. The man entering is placed in the second grade. If he obeys the rules he soon reaches the first grade; if he does not he falls to the third and wears prison stripes. Each man as he enters is instructed carefully in regard to the rules and a copy of them is given him. The "solitary" is the severest punishment, but, for the most part, the loss of grade and fines are the punishments of the system. That is, there are placed so many cents a day to the prisoner's credit. If a man carefully obeys the rules he has quite an amount due when he is released. If, on the contrary, the man violates the rules, which are stringent, he is fined and these fines are deducted from his earnings. Every man knows how his account stands by the use of a pass book. If his conviction is a first offense and it is an ordinary misdemeanor he can count upon a parole before the end of two years, provided employment is found for him by the prison officials or friends. If he is a vicious or even a careless inmate he will not be paroled—parole being strictly confined to men who obey the rules of the institution. Most of those who get into the reformatory or prison really have no trade, and when they pretend to have they are ordinary workmen. It is the purpose of those managing such institutions to give the men instruction in some branch of industry which will enable them to earn a living. A large part of those sent to the reformatory are illiterate; for such there are evening schools where they are instructed through the fourth grade in the school system of Indiana.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the length of the period which a man sent to the State Reformatory shall serve depends upon his conduct in that institution. Under this system 1,132 were paroled during the five years it has been in operation, of which only 231 were reported as unsatisfactory. As good conduct is necessary after parole, the certainty of being returned is an incentive to good behavior. As many men have been paroled during the past five years, and are doing well, as are in the institution at the present time. It is scarcely necessary to add that the merit system has wrought a great change in the general conduct of the inmates.

The same system is in force with a large part of the convicts in the Northern prison. Those who are serving a first sentence, if the offense is not a grave one, are certain of parole upon a record of exemplary conduct. There is not much chance, however, for those who are under a third or fourth sentence, and a second counts against parole or the exercise of executive clemency. In fact, the conviction is gaining ground that a man who is convicted twice of a crime which puts human life in peril, like housebreaking, should spend the rest of his life in prison.

In this connection it should be understood that the man in either institution who has a bad record as a prisoner need not expect executive clemency. Indeed, it is safe to say that neither the entreaties of relatives, the eloquence of counsel nor the influence of those who are supposed to possess it can overcome a vicious prison record. Inmate or convict who is in the third grade and wears the prison stripes can have no hope of executive clemency, since the first thing considered is the man's record. This action is based upon the natural theory that a man who does not behave himself in prison, where there are rules, will not obey the laws and be a good citizen outside. In other words, the merit system is in full force in the penal institutions of Indiana, and the man who is in one of those institutions can no longer hope for a pardon or parole which he does not merit by good conduct.

THE LITERARY ASPIRANT.

It is the season for offering unasked-for advice to college graduates, and the editor of the literary supplement of the New York Times takes advantage of the occasion to tell the "fair boy graduate" what he should and should not do. If he wants to be a literary man, this adviser informs him he must not enter a newspaper office as a preliminary to the career. The work of a newspaper reporter, continues this counselor, has no more relation to literature than that of a house and sign painter has to the art of Michael Angelo. Both kinds of painters use paint and brushes. Both kinds of writers use words. But thereafter their paths part. It has happened that sign painters have become artists. It has happened that newspaper reporters have become literary men. But it just happened. It was not according to the usual processes of nature. Writing up a fire in the dry-goods district at 1 a. m. is destructive of literary skill and doing the East Side police stations is poor training for writing introspective poetry. Keep out of the newspaper offices, aspirant for literary honors. They are not literary places. This advice would probably have more force and influence if the aspiring graduate were not able to look about him and see so many successful literary men who served their apprenticeship in newspaper offices. Among them he can count Mark Twain, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Bret Harte, Richard Watson Gilder, William Dean Howells, William Winter, Richard Henry Stoddard—these among the older men. Of the younger set there is a host—Gilbert Parker, Robert Barr, Richard Harding Davis, Frank Norris, as notable examples. Not all of these, perhaps, served as reporters, but most of them did, and of those who were employed in other newspaper work, it is safe to say that they were doing routine service, and were not at that early stage producing literature. What they were all doing was fitting themselves for the writing of books—what is classed, though often mistakenly, as literature because it is bound between covers. For it is not true by any means that there is nothing in common between the work of the reporter and that of the literary man. The account of a fire or a record of police-court happenings does not necessarily belong to literature, but the man who writes the report and the record learns to choose his words, to say enough and not too much, to discern and set forth the important and omit the unessential. He learns to see—a skill as desirable in the writer of books as of newspaper reports—and he learns to describe what he sees, also an art necessary to both callings. He comes to be able to tell a story, not only in his own language, but in the language of others. He sees the world from many points of view and comes in contact with humankind, as he could hardly do in any other occupation. This experience will not make a literary man of a reporter unless he has certain qualities not absolutely essential to the reporter yet indispensable to the novelist, but it will be of great benefit to him when he gives up reporting for the writing of novels—which is what the "fair graduate," boy or girl, usually has in mind when a literary career is talked of, as if poetry, essays, history, biography did not exist.

And even if he never writes books he need not despair of producing literature. Much that deserves the title appears in newspaper columns every day—editorial essays, bits of vivid description, touches of pathos and poetry, flights of eloquence. There is William Winter, for instance, poet, essayist, dramatic critic, who has written always for newspapers, and all of whose work is literature. While these illustrations exist of what the newspaper may produce—for not all these men were "accidents," surely—the New York editor is wasting his energy in striving to keep the literary aspirant from the newspaper office. It may or may not be his best school, but it is surely not his worst.

The extent to which a class of gamblers enter into any event attracting wide attention is illustrated by the large amount of insurance written in England practically guaranteeing that the coronation would take place as announced. Men who embark in that class of ventures offered to insure the coming off of the coronation for a small percentage, and another class of speculators took the bets, or policies, as they are called. Very naturally, the rate of insurance on the certainty of such an event must have been ridiculously small, but it did not occur, and the amount the underwriters are called upon to pay is so large that many failures and assignments are reported. The most of the business was transacted under the general name of Lloyds, but it turns out that the insuring was done by individuals or firms having no connection with that well-known name in insurances. That a few people should embark in such a class of wagers might be expected, but when it is alleged that the most exciting Derby ever run was nothing to it, some idea is conveyed of the extent of a speculation that is nothing but gambling pure and simple. Coronation insurance is even more absurd than the betting on the prices of stocks which represent no earning capacity.

The expressions by the American press and representative Americans everywhere of regret for the critical illness of King Edward and of hope for his recovery are so general and so genuine that they may be accepted as tokening a warm feeling of friendship not only for the stricken monarch, but for his people. This sentiment was evident at the time of Queen Victoria's death, and that it is reciprocated was shown by the utterances of the British press and public at the time of President McKinley's assassination. No event occurring in this country was ever given so much space in English newspapers as this, and expressions of grief were outspoken on every hand. It is only within a few years that this sympathy and sorrow would have been so generally felt on either side under the same circumstances. That it is so now marks what is undoubtedly true, that these English-speaking peoples who have so much in common and have yet been so antagonistic are coming into closer touch with each other and to a better understanding of each other's character and purposes. The fact that England acted a friendly part in a practical way within recent years is appreciated and creates a kindly feeling in return. It is well that it is so. Each government and each people will retain its own characteristics, but both will be the better for the existence of international amity.

The warning of Congress that the paying of the deficits of the Buffalo and Charleston expositions must not be considered as a precedent will both amuse and encourage those who are in the business of promoting world's fairs. The real fact is that the people of this and other countries have had quite enough of world exhibitions. With all the advertising of the Buffalo promoters of its world's fair, and by railroads, people generally did not take an interest in it, even when knowing that it was an elaborate and novel exhibition. The St. Louis fair will be a wonderful exhibit; but, judging from the experience of all the fairs since the Chicago exhibit, it does not now attract the attention it should to insure success. Its patriotic conception will help it. The building of a vast empire in a land uninhabited a hundred years ago is calculated to inspire an unusual interest in it. Congress has already been more than liberal toward the enterprise, yet its projectors have suggested the desirability of more money from the government. States, generally, have responded more liberally than they did to the Chicago exhibition, but it is not so much prophecy as experience to assert that when it shall be over Congress will be asked to assume a large deficit. Already there is talk of other national exhibits, but hereafter none of them should receive congressional assistance. The money can be much better expended for public buildings.

One of the things which many people cannot understand is that the condition of Edward VII should depress the stock markets in Europe. If the King should die the succession would be effected without the least confusion. The Prince of Wales, who would succeed his father, is a man of thirty-seven, with three children. Until the death of his elder brother, ten years ago, he had no expectation of coming to the throne. It is said that he lacks the tact of his father and is lacking in the social tastes and ambitions which his father has displayed, but otherwise is a man of ability. Such being the case, why the death of the King, who has as little to do in shaping the government of Great Britain as a man holding his position can have, should depress the markets, is a condition that needs explanation.

Having forbidden kissing at the Jersey City Station between departing travelers and their stay-at-home friends and families, the Pennsylvania road has undertaken another reform by issuing an order that the throwing of rice and old shoes by wedding parties will no longer be permitted at the station, and that all persons guilty of the offense will be arrested. This rule is in effect only in New Jersey and Pennsylvania as yet, but may well be extended to all branches of the road and adopted by other roads. Railroads may not be able to break up the public kissing habit, but they can do something toward teaching manners to a hitherto uncurbed variety of "yahoo."

The proclamation of amnesty for all political prisoners in the Philippine islands, which it has been decided to issue July 4, will give special significance to the national anniversary. It will be in effect a proclamation of peace and notice to the world that from now on all efforts will be directed to the establishment of civil government and the upbuilding of the islands. The amnesty will include Aguinaldo and all the prisoners now in Guam who are not charged with crime. If the former insurgent leader has a spark of gratitude in his nature he will devote the rest of his life to aiding in popularizing American government in the islands.

The exactions of the government were such that a colony of 250 Welshmen who emigrated several years ago to the Argentine Republic sighed for a return to British territory, and have just arrived at Toronto with a view to settling in British Columbia. Residents of the United States sometimes wonder why foreigners come to this country and to Canada in so much greater numbers than to South America, but incidents like this throw light on the subject. Not all Americans value their country as they should, but people of other lands appreciate its advantages.

In holding an anti-smoke law constitutional a New York judge says: "The power to regulate and abate nuisances and preserve the health and comfort of the citizen is one of the principal functions of government and is subject to regulation within the police powers. A citizen has not absolute and unlimited rights over his property, but holds his rights subject to control and regulation for the benefit of the masses." This statutory principle should be understood by every person, namely, that public welfare is superior to private rights.

A Chicago dairyman, charged with selling impure milk, brought into court six women with babies too young to talk but whose looks bespoke good health. The mothers testified that the babies were fed on milk furnished by the defendant, and the babies, themselves, were put in evidence as exhibits A to F, inclusive. When two of the exhibits cried the court had to admit that their lung power afforded presumptive proof that there were no tuberculosis germs in the milk. It is probably the first case on record in which children too young to talk were cited as witnesses.

An English novelist, who heard that "pirates" had surreptitiously procured an advance copy of his new book and were about to bring it out in America, hurriedly condensed the story of 100,000 words into 250 words, had it printed and speeded two copies on their way to Washington in order to comply with the copyright law and circumvent his enemies. Now, if the American public shall be asked to read only the shorter version, thanks will be due to the English writer for establishing a precedent. For it is an undeniable fact that all that is worth while in the average novel, either English or American, can easily be put into 250 words.

Illustrated newspapers which were loaded up in advance with coronation pictures are working off the accumulated stock anyhow. By this plan the public is enabled, for instance, to see how the archbishops of Canterbury and York look in their coronation copes, the excuse for the illustrations at this time being the services held by the two ecclesiastics to intercede for the life of the King. The reverend gentlemen did not wear these vestments on this occasion, it is true, but as the garments were on in the halftones they could not conveniently be left off. Therefore it is that newspaper readers are favored with a glimpse of the photographed magnificence. A coronation cape, seen in this way, it may be incidentally observed, has much the appearance of a patchwork quilt.

Hamlin Garland, who has just swept Whittier and Longfellow off the literary board with one twist of his brawny Wisconsin wrist, has been engaged by Chicago University to deliver a series of eight lectures on American literature. At the rate he has begun no one will be left to represent American literature but Ham. Garland by the time he gets through.

The name of Lord Lister, as one of the physicians of King Edward, calls to mind that he is the gentleman to whom we owe a debt for having discovered that excellent and indispensable antiseptic, listerine. It is hardly necessary to remark in this connection that he is no "doctoreen."

Hamlin Garland says Longfellow's writings are fit only for women and children to read. This is one difference between Garland and Longfellow. Most of what the Wisconsin man has written is not fit for women and children.

THE HUMORISTS.

The Trouble.

Puck.

Mrs. Jones—I always think twice before I speak once, sir!

Mr. Jones (sighing)—Exactly, Maria—but you are such a quick thinker.

Discontent.

Washington Star.

"Nobody ain't neber satisfy," said Uncle Eben. "Ef I was rich enough to hab an automobile, I reckon I'd get lonesome an' wish it were a mule, so's I could talk to it."

Some Proof.

Philadelphia Record.

Judge—What proof have we that this man is absent-minded?

Attorney—Why, he actually stopped his automobile at a watering fountain.

The Reason Evident.

Boston Post.

"Why do you spit on your bait?" asked the city angler sarcastically of the boy with the bent pole and knotted line.

"Huh!" replied the urchin. "That's a fool question. I've ketched four fish since you got here, an' you hain't had a bite."

Uses of History.

Chicago Post.

"What's the use of history, anyway?" asked the boy in disgust.

"My son," replied the father, "when you are older you will not ask such foolish questions. History is of the utmost importance. It gives the modern novelist something to take liberties with."

A Providential Porter.

Lippincott's Magazine.

A gentleman, Scotch Presbyterian, traveling with his five-year-old son, told the child as he put him to bed to say his prayers as usual, which the boy flatly refused to do.

"Don't you want the Lord to take care of you to-night?" asked the anxious father.

"What's the porter here for?" was the child's response.

Left the Coal.

Boston Transcript.

Barnes—Manning's house was broken into last night, and a lot of jewelry and silver plate carried off.

Shed—You don't mean it.

Barnes—It was a bad break; but, fortunately, the burglars did not go into the cellar; if they had they would have made a fine haul. It was only the day before that Manning got in fifteen tons of coal.

He Got Off Easy.

Chicago News.

Hix—I played in great luck yesterday.

Dix—How's that?

Hix—I found a pocketbook containing a lot of valuable papers and $1,000 in cash. It belonged to old Grouchcrly and I returned it to him this morning.

Dix—Got a liberal reward, eh?

Hix—Not a cent.

Dix—Then where did your luck come in?

Hix—Why, he didn't charge me any interest on the money while it was in my possession.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

A Chillicothe minister said: "God bless ping pong; it is the best indoor game yet discovered," and a local paper asks the revcrend gentleman if he ever tried poker.

Baroness Burdett-Coutts, now eighty-eight years of age, intends to look at King Edward VII's coronation procession out of the same windows from which she looked on Queen Victoria's, sixty-four years ago.

One of the "Peculiar People" in Holland recently broke his arm. He declined to call in a doctor, and wrapped a leaf out of a Bible round the small toe of his left foot. He declares that this gave him instant relief. He still walks about with a broken arm.

"We are not sure of the meaning of the noun 'bugaboo' or the verb 'to boost,' says the Academy and Literature, in its review of Mr. Carnegie's 'Empire of Business.' But we are sure," it adds, "they mean something vigorous, or Mr. Carnegie would not use them."

King Edward is a great lover of dogs and has had many favorites. The present chosen and constant canine companion of his Majesty is an Irish terrier named Jack. He came into the King's possession in November, last, and now lives with his Majesty, travels with him and lies beside the King's chair all day.

Maxim Gorky, the Russian novelist, purposes to found in Nijni-Novgorod a vagabonds' inn, which will receive every vagabond who applies for shelter for a limited time, no matter whether he be worthy or not. It will be conducted on humanitarian principles and will contain a small brewery and a huge tea hall. Only professional drunkards and card swindlers will be refused admission.

Mr. Paul Adam, whose "L'Enfant d'Austerlitz" has been one of the greatest recent successes, is an exceedingly prolific writer, who, though barely forty years old, has already written nearly twenty-five volumes. He was for a long time completely under the influence of Emile Zola, but since 1890 his work has belonged to an entirely different school, and he is, as a matter of fact, now one of the most conspicuous writers of the idealistic school. Despite the amount of his output, his first great success was gained by a story called "La Force," of which "L'Enfant d'Austerlitz" is a sequel.

This is what Disraeli wrote at the time of Queen Victoria's coronation, and some may feel the same way now: "I must give up going to the coronation, as all the members of Parliament must be in court dresses or uniforms, and I can't afford to buy any. I console myself with the conviction that to get up at 7 o'clock, to sit dressed like a flunky in Westminster abbey for seven or eight hours, and to listen to a sermon by the bishop of London are treats which can be missed with fortitude."

In his new work, "Elementary Physical Geography," Prof. Davis, of Harvard University, makes some interesting comparisons of the relative heights of mountains and the depths of the seas. According to his statements "the highest mountain peaks (25,000 to 29,000 feet), do not rise above sea level so much as the greatest ocean depths sink below it (31,600 feet). The average elevation of the lands (2,400 feet less than half a mile), is much less than the average depth of the oceans (about two miles)."

Edward Ten Eyck, champion oarsman of the world, comes by his ability quite naturally. Members of his family have been noted oarsmen for four generations. His grandfather, seventy-eight years old, is a ferryman at Peekskill, up the Hudson, and is willing to meet any man of his age. The old gentleman's father was in the same business at the same place one hundred years ago, and the present patriarch taught Ed about all the latter knows. The champion's father is now training a crew at the naval academy, Annapolis.

George C. Hume, a lawyer of Chilton, Wis., is about to receive a unique honor. He will be made chief of the Brothertown Indian nation. Mr. Hume aided the Indians gratuitously in filing proofs of the validity of their claims against the government, and in return they have elected the lawyer to the chieftainship of the nation. He will accept, as the office is merely a nominal one, and will not interfere with his other duties. The Brothertowns still maintain their ancient tribal relations, though they are amenable to the laws of the United States.

It is doubtful whether any single family on either side engaged in the Boer war has given so many victims as that of the ex-President of the Transvaal. In addition to the death of his wife, Mr. Krueger has had to mourn the death of his son Tjaard Andries from wounds while a prisoner at Pretoria. His third son, Piet, is a prisoner at Ceylon, John Adrian and Kaspar were both still on active service when last heard of, and his grandson Peter fought until he lost an arm and a leg, and then swore allegiance. Another of his grandsons, Peter's brother Stephen, is with De La Rey, badly wounded, while three others, the sons of John Adrian, have all died fighting for independence. The ex-President's son-in-law, Piet Fourie, is another of his family who has lost his life in the struggle. No one will be able to withhold from the old man sympathy for the heavy share of the sorrows of war that has fallen to his lot.

A hero and a fight or two,
A villain forced to grovel;
An ad. a magazine review,
And there's your modern novel.
—Washington Star.

WISDOM OF CURRENT FICTION.

A sorrow stoically borne is already a sorrow half vanquished.—The Lady Paramount.

No real gentleman will tell the naked truth in the presence of ladies.—A Double-barreled Detective Story.

When a girl marries a widower she drinks water out of a glass that has held wine.—Spindle and Plough.

People are seldom man and wife half their lives without wishing to impart their sufferings, as well as their pleasures, to each other.—The Kentons.

"I shall have the whip hand," said Mrs. Bloss. "That's the great advantage of marrying an uneducated man. Remember that—if you ever get the chance."—Spindle and Plough.

"The life of a retail butcher," said Mrs. Heaven, "is a most exciting and wearying one. Nobody satisfied with their meat—as if it mattered in a world of change!—The Diary of a Goose Girl.

Ets er long lane that ain't got no turnin' whutsomever, and I've noticed this all my life—the longer she is before she does turn, the bigger turn she makes when she finally gits to it.—The Silent Pioneer.

"If you ever take a notion to a widder, Mr. Pilgreen, don't sit round waitin' for her to forget her first husband," said Mr. Mobley. "It's right nice to have such feelin's, but somebody else'll get the widder."—Rev. Pilgreen's Wooing.

Have you ever paused to moralize over the irony that determines the fate of families? Take, for example, a family that begins with a great man—a great soldier, a great saint, for instance—and then forevermore produces none but mediocrities.—The Lady Paramount.

I never figure much on what will bring success in general. I notice that the fellows who do the most of that are the least successful, and I simply take things as they come and make the best I can out of them, one at a time.—Shacklett.

There is nothing on earth so feminine as a hen—not womanly, simply feminine. Those men of insight who write the woman's page in the Sunday newspapers study hens more than women, I sometimes think. At any rate, their favorite types are all at present on this poultry farm.—The Dairy of a Goose Girl.

CLOSING HIS ACCOUNTS.

Lord Kitchener Making Plain the Way to Civil Government.

Baltimore Herald.

The British commander-in-chief in South Africa is now busily engaged in the pleasing task of winding up the various departments which he constructed in his campaign work. His latest dispatch to the British Foreign Office states that the civil forces of the law have been returned to their normal independence of the military branch and that South Africa is at last in a condition that warrants a return to civil recourses for violence and misconduct.

This official acknowledgment is of more importance in a local sense than most readers may realize, for it means that the rigid laws of the court-martial have been superseded by the more elastic regime of the ordinary courts at law. The second period of British regeneration in the conquered territory must now be considered as fairly well begun.

This reconstruction period will demand equally as intelligent handling as that of actual hostilities. Lord Milner will be forced to employ his utmost ingenuity in solving the problem of resettling the Boers who, until busied with the every-day tasks of life, must form an uncertain factor, with demoralizing tendencies. Fortunately, the Boer leaders appear to be as vigorously aiding Lord Milner as they opposed his military predecessor. It has been suggested that the Boer plan will be an attempt to quietly attain the real control through greater numbers, as has actually been done by the Canadian-French in Quebec province.

Origin of the Name Cuba.

Philadelphia Record.

The Board of Geographical Names has put in considerable time finding the origin of the name Cuba. The result is announced as follows:

"Cuba is the name by which the island was originally known to the Lucayan Indians, who were with Columbus when he discovered it. One of its villages or cities was called by them Cubanacan, and it is reported that from the similarity of sounds Columbus, still supposing himself to be on the coast of Asia, imagined that this must be a city of Kubla Kahan, the Tartar sovereign celebrated by Marco Polo. The survival of the original name for Cuba is a remarkable instance of persistence, as the island has been baptized and rebaptized many times since its European discovery. Columbus first called it Juana, in honor of Prince John, the son of Ferdinand and Isabella. After Ferdinand's death it was called, in his memory, Ferdinandia. Subsequently this name was changed to Santiago, after St. James, the patron saint of Spain. Still later it was named Ave Maria, in honor of the Virgin Mary. But none of these names held, and the Indian name is still preserved.

Important Naval Experiments.

Minneapolis Tribune.

Naval officers have recently been experimenting with oil as fuel for warships, and Admiral Melville is said to be highly encouraged with the success achieved. Under forced draught air pressure of one inch, one-third more steam was produced than under corresponding conditions with the best quality of soft coal. In view of a possible shortage of coal from the prolonged strike of the coal miners, those experiments are important.